

CLAIMS

The following is claimed:

1. A local system for providing music management and investment opportunities,

5 comprising:

a memory comprising a peer-tuner application and a music investment server application;

a local database comprising a local peer-tuner portion and a local music investment
server portion; and

a processor programmed by said peer-tuner application and said music investment server
10 application, wherein,

said processor is programmed by said peer-tuner application to perform the steps
of:

connecting said local system with at least one remote system having said
peer-tuner application therein;

15 allowing a user of said local system to download benchmark music
received from said remote system to said local peer-tuner portion of said local database, after
connecting said local system with said remote system, wherein said benchmark music received
by said local system, from said remote system, is removed from said local peer-tuner portion of
said local database when said connection between said local system and said remote system is

20 ended; and

allowing said user to purchase said benchmark music received from said
remote system, and

wherein said processor is programmed by said music investment server to perform the steps of:

providing said user of said remote system with an option to purchase said benchmark music; and

5 allowing a user of said local system or said remote system to invest in potential sales of said benchmark music, wherein said investment entitles said user to a portion of funds received from purchasing of said benchmark music.

10 2. The system of claim 1, wherein said local peer-tuner portion of said database further stores therein, a benchmark music identification code that identifies said benchmark music, wherein said benchmark music identification code is capable of being utilized to identify said benchmark music to said music investment server application for purposes of purchasing said benchmark music.

15 3. The system of claim 2, wherein downloading of said benchmark music from said remote system to said local peer-tuner portion of said local database is accompanied by transmission of said benchmark music identification code from said remote system to said local peer-tuner portion of said local database, and wherein said music identification code is removed from said local peer-tuner portion of said local database when said downloaded benchmark
20 music is removed from said local peer-tuner portion of said local database.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed by said music investment server application to open and regulate a series of user accounts.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music buyer account, said music buyer account being debited by said music investment server application when said user purchases benchmark music.

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6. The system of claim 4, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music investor account, said music investor account being credited by said music investment server application when said benchmark music is purchased.

7. The system of claim 4, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music seller account, said music seller account being credited by said music investment server application when said user purchases benchmark music.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed by said music investment server application to perform the step of determining if a user of said remote system is registered to interact with said music investment server application.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein said peer-tuner application further provides said user with the option to block downloaded music received from said remote system from being played again.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed by said music investment server application to provide said user of said remote system with an option to download said peer-tuner application to said remote system.

5 11. The system of claim 1, wherein purchasing of said benchmark music by said user of said local peer-tuner application, assuming said user of said local peer-tuner application has distribution rights to said benchmark music, results in said benchmark music being made available within said local peer-tuner portion of said local database for downloading by said remote peer-tuner application after a connection has been made between said remote system and said local system.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed by said music investment server application to allow a user of said local system to listen to benchmark music stored within said local music investment server portion of said local database.

15 13. The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed by said local peer-tuner application to create a list of remote peers within said local peer-tuner portion of said local database, a remote peer being a remote computer system having therein benchmark music that is similar in musical taste to the user of the local computer system.

20 14. The system of claim 13, wherein said processor is further programmed by said local peer tuner application to remove a remote peer from said list of remote peers if benchmark music located within said remote computer system is no longer similar in musical taste to the

user of the local computer system, said removal of said remote peer resulting in removal of benchmark music from said remote computer system.

15. A first peer-tuner for providing using management and investment opportunities,
5 comprising:

a memory comprising a peer tuner application;

a local database; and

a processor programmed by said peer-tuner application to perform the steps of:

connecting said first peer-tuner to a second peer-tuner; and

10 allowing a user of said first peer-tuner to download benchmark music received
from said second peer-tuner to said local database, after connecting said first peer-tuner with said
second peer-tuner, wherein said benchmark music received by said local database is removed
from said local database when said connection between said first peer-tuner and said second
15 peer-tuner is ended.

16. The first peer-tuner of claim 15, wherein said local database further stores therein,
a benchmark music identification code that identifies said benchmark music, wherein said
benchmark music identification code may be utilized for purposes of purchasing said benchmark
music.

20 17. The first peer-tuner of claim 15, wherein downloading of said benchmark music
from said second peer-tuner to said local database is accompanied by transmission of said
benchmark music identification code from said second peer-tuner to said local database, and

wherein said music identification code is removed from said local database when said downloaded benchmark music is removed from said first peer-tuner.

18. The first peer-tuner of claim 15, wherein said first peer-tuner further provides said user with the option to block downloaded music received from said second peer-tuner from being played again.

19. The first peer-tuner of claim 15, wherein said first peer-tuner provides a user of said first peer-tuner with an option to purchase said benchmark music, wherein purchasing of said benchmark music by said user of said first peer-tuner, assuming said user of said first peer-tuner has distribution rights to said benchmark music, results in said benchmark music being made available within said local database for downloading by said second peer-tuner after a connection has been made between said first peer-tuner and said second peer-tuner.

20. The first peer-tuner of claim 15, wherein said processor is further programmed by said peer-tuner application to create a list of remote peer-tuners having benchmark music therein that is similar in musical taste to the user of the first peer-tuner.

21. The first peer-tuner of claim 20, wherein said processor is further programmed by said peer tuner application to remove a remote peer-tuner from said list of remote peer-tuners if benchmark music from said remote peer-tuner is no longer similar in musical taste to the user of the first peer-tuner, said removal of said remote peer-tuner resulting in ending connection between the first peer-tuner and the remote peer-tuner.

22. A method of providing music management and investment opportunities,
comprising the steps of:

connecting a local system with at least one remote system;

5 allowing a user of said local system to download benchmark music received from said
remote system to said local system, after connecting said local system with said remote system,
wherein said benchmark music received by said local system, from said remote system, is
removed from said local system when said connection between said local system and said remote
system is ended;

10 allowing said user to purchase said benchmark music received from said remote system;

and

15 allowing a user of said local system or said remote system to invest in potential sales of
said benchmark music, wherein said investment entitles said user to a portion of funds received
from purchasing of said benchmark music.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of said local system storing
therein, a benchmark music identification code that identifies said benchmark music, wherein
said benchmark music identification code is capable of being utilized to identify said benchmark
music for purposes of purchasing said benchmark music.

20 24. The method of claim 22, wherein said step of downloading further comprises the
step of transmitting said benchmark music identification code from said remote system to said

local system, and removing said music identification code from said local system when said downloaded benchmark music is removed from said local system.

25. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of opening and regulating

5 user accounts.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music

buyer account, said music buyer account being debited by said local system when said user purchases benchmark music.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music

investor account, said music investor account being credited by said local system when said benchmark music is purchased.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein said series of user accounts comprise a music

seller account, said music seller account being credited by said local system when said benchmark music is purchased.

29. The method of claim 22, wherein purchasing of said benchmark music by said

20 user of said local system, assuming said user of said local system has distribution rights to said benchmark music, results in said benchmark music being made available within said local system for downloading by said remote system after a connection has been made between said remote system and said local system.

30. The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of creating within said local system a list of remote systems having benchmark music therein that is similar in musical taste to said user of said local system.

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31. The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of said local system removing a remote system from said list of remote systems if benchmark music located within said remote system is no longer similar in musical taste to the user of the local system, said removal of said remote system resulting in removal of benchmark music from said remote computer system from said local system.

32. A system for providing music management and investment opportunities, comprising:

means for connecting a local system with at least one remote system;

means for allowing a user of said local system to download benchmark music received from said remote system to said local system, after connecting said local system with said remote system, wherein said benchmark music received by said local system, from said remote system, is removed from said local system when said connection between said local system and said remote system is ended;

means for allowing said user to purchase said benchmark music received from said remote system; and

means for allowing a user of said local system or said remote system to invest in potential sales of said benchmark music, wherein said investment entitles said user to a portion of funds received from purchasing of said benchmark music.